Killings of Policemen in Assam

1221. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the recent killings of nine policemen and one civilian ambushed by terrorist outfits in the District of North Cachar Hills in Assam;

(b) what concrete steps have been taken by Government to stop such cowerdly killings by the terrorists in Assam; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Govt. has taken various steps to bring the law and order situation in State under control. These include, *inter alia,* deployment of Para-military forces and army in the State, coordinated action by army, Para-military forces and State Police for counter insurgency operations, declaration of major insurgent groups as unlawful association under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967; declaration of insurgency affected States as "disturbed area" under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958; reimbursement of security related expenditure to the State Government and modernisation/ upgradation of State police Force. Regular review of the situation both at State and Central Government level is being made.

Ceasefire Agreement with BLT

1222. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the assessment of ceasefire agreement with BLT;

(b) whether Government are thinking about such a ceasefire with NDF(B); and

(c) the policy adopted by Government to prevent fatricidal killings in BAC areas of Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) The peace talks with BLT are progressing satisfactorily. The level of violence attributable to the B LT has come down following initiation of peace talks with the BLT.

(b) Government of India would respond positively if an offer for talks by the NDFB on the same lines as with BLT is received.

(c) The Govt. has taken various steps to bring the law and order situation in Assam including BAC areas under control. These include, *inter alia*, deployment of Para-military forces and army in the State, coordinated action by army, Para-military forces and State Police for counter insurgency operations, declaration of major insurgent groups as unlawful association under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967; declaration of insurgency affected States as "disturbed area" under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958; reimbursement of security related expenditure to the State Government and modernisation/upgradation of State police Force. Regular review of the situation both at State and Central Government level is being made.

Unconditional Talks with Militant Groups in North East

1223. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to have unconditional dialogue with different militant groups in North East - such as ULFA, NDF(B), and Tripura Militants, Karbi Militants, NSCN(K) etc; and

(b) whether Government would declare ceasefire with ULFA as gesture to create a conducive atmosphere for a fruitful dialogue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration of Government at present.

Complaint by Minorities Commission on the Plight of Refugees from Afghanistan

1224. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Minorities Commission has complained about the plight of Indian refugees arriving from Afghanistan; and

(b) if so, the action taken to help such refugees who are living in penury?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.